

**A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON  
THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY**

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*March 1988*

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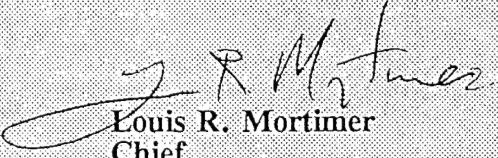
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This bibliography, produced in monthly installments from an online database, provides selective annotations of serials and monographs on the army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). Entries are arranged alphabetically by author in three sections: modernization of the North Korean army, strategies and tactics used by the North Korean army during the Korean War (1950-53), and strategies and tactics used by the North Korean army since the war.			
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## PREFACE

This bibliography provides selective annotations of open-source material and covers the following topics:

- modernization of the North Korean Army,
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics in the Korean War, and
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics since the Korean War.

The bibliography incorporates serials and monographs received in the previous month and is part of a continuing series on the above subjects.

Entries are arranged alphabetically by author or title. Library of Congress call numbers, where appropriate, are included to facilitate the recovery of works cited.

## **GLOSSARY**

CPLA	Chinese People's Liberation Army
CFC	Combined Forces Command (US and ROK)
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)
NKA	North Korean Army
NKAF	North Korean Air Force
NKN	North Korean Navy
KPA	Korean People's Army (Comprises NKA, NKAF, and NKN)
KWP	Korean Workers' Party
ROK	Republic of Korea (South Korea)
ROKA	Republic of Korea Army
ROKAF	Republic of Korea Air Force
ROKN	Republic of Korea Navy

**1. MODERNIZATION OF THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY**

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"Army Commanders Warn of Underground Tunnels." Korea Times (Seoul), 10 December 1987, pp. 27-8.

During a 9 December briefing provided to army commanders, ROKA Chief of Staff Pak Hui-to reported that North Korea has deployed Russian made SCUD surface-to-surface missiles and MiG-23/FLOGGER fighter aircraft close to the DMZ. North Korea is also said to have built 300 tunnels to infiltrate mechanized forces in a blitzkrieg invasion of the South. The article says that ROKAF and ROKN officers also met on 9 December to discuss the North Korean air and naval threats to South Korea, respectivley.

Bermudez, Joseph S., Jr. "North Korean Marines." Asia-Pacific Defense Forum (Honolulu), Vol. 12, No. 3, Winter 1987, pp. 29-32. Not in LC

The article describes the organization of the NKA's light infantry brigades (LIBs) which have been trained for amphibious operations in the event North Korea attacks South Korea. The NKA has three such brigades assigned to naval bases on both the east and west coast. The NKN's capability to support amphibious operations are also discussed in the article.

Deen, Thalif. "Iran - Meeting its Arms Requirements." Jane's Defence Weekly (London), Vol. 8, No. 21, 28 November 1987, pp. 1276-77. UF530.J35

The magnitude of North Korea's arms sales to Iran are an indication of the size and viability of its weapons industry. It is reported that North Korea has recently provided about \$1 billion of arms to Iran in exchange for approximately 250,000 tons of oil. The weapons delivered to Tehran are said to include 150 T-62 tanks, 400 artillery pieces, 1000 mortars, 600 anti-aircraft guns, and 12,000 machine guns and rifles.

"Kim Jong-il Ordered KAL Bombing." Korea Herald (Seoul), 16 January 1988, p. 1.

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One of the two suspects in the bombing of a South Korean airliner that disappeared near Burma on 29 November acknowledges her complicity in the affair and indicates that she and one other North Korean agent received orders to carry out the bombing from Kim Chong-il, the son and heir apparent of North Korean President Kim Il-song. Kim Hyon-hui, the daughter of a North Korean diplomat, told the South Korean press that she helped to plant a time bomb on the ill-fated airliner as part of a plan to undermine the Seoul Olympics. Kim, now in the custody of South Korea's Agency for National Security Planning, made her statement during a news conference in Seoul. Kim claims she was given more than three years of training for the terrorist mission.

"Military Leaders Warn North Korean Missiles Put Near DMZ."  
Korea Herald (Seoul), 10 December 1987, p. 2.

On 9 December, ROKA Chief of Staff Pak Hui-to briefed a number of ROKA officers on recent North Korean military deployments. Pak reported that North Korea has deployed long-range surface-to-surface missiles along the DMZ. However, the article does not discuss how many or what type of missiles have been so deployed. Pak also mentioned the electronic warfare and underground tunnel threats. According to the Korea Herald, North Korea has deployed three battalions of electronic warfare units near the DMZ, and has dug about 300 tunnels to allow North Korean troops to enter South Korea undetected in the event the North invades the South.

"Seoul Suggests It Suspects North In Plane Disaster." New York Times, 3 December 1987, p. A13.

Seoul suspects North Korea is responsible for the 29 November disappearance of a South Korean-owned Boeing 707 that was flying home from the Middle East and was lost somewhere in the vicinity of the border between Burma and Thailand. One hundred fifteen people were aboard the civil airliner and all are feared dead. Two passengers disembarked from the plane in Bahrain and both swallowed

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cyanide poison when they were picked up by police for questioning about the incident. According to South Korean Assistant Foreign Minister Park Soo Gil, "we feel these two people are clearly connected to the destruction of the airliner." Other South Korean officials say they expect North Korea will intensify provocations against their country in order to undermine the 1988 Summer Olympics which are scheduled to take place in Seoul.

2. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS IN THE KOREAN WAR

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Kim, Hong N. "US Archival Materials in Washington DC for the Study of Korea." Korea Observer (Seoul), Vol. 18, No. 2, Summer 1987, pp. 117-36. DS901.K717

The author provides a useful guide for locating government documents in the Washington DC area that contain information on the Korean War. The National Archives has several pertinent collections, including: record groups 319 and 333, which have the Korean War records for the US Army Assistant Chiefs of Staff for Intelligence and Operations and the United Nations Command, respectively. Relevant government document collections at the Army Center of Military History, the Naval Historical Center, the Library of Congress and other institutions are also discussed in the article.

Petraeus, David H. "Korea, The Never-Again Club, and Indochina." Parameters (Carlisle Barracks, PA), Vol. 17, No. 4, December 1987, pp. 59-70. U1.P32

The author believes that the American experience in the Korean War influenced several high level military leaders to argue against proposals that the United States become militarily involved in Indochina in 1954. Admiral Arthur Radford, who was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the time, favored a policy of providing air strikes to prevent a communist victory over France at Dienbienphu, but such a policy was opposed by almost all other high ranking military officials because it was feared the American public would not support such actions. The article suggests that President Eisenhower may have approved Radford's plan if British Prime Minister Winston Churchill had been willing to offer his country's support for "united action."

**3. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS SINCE THE KOREAN WAR**

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Hiatt, Fred. "North Korea's Isolation Seen Dangerous For Its Foes" Washington Post, 23 February 1988, p. A17.

The author interviewed a number of North Korean specialists in the United States, Japan, and South Korea and asked them about the possibility that Pyongyang will attempt to disrupt the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Most of these specialists agree that the communist regime was responsible for the November 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner, however they do not agree why North Korea took this action, nor do they feel confident about predicting what provocations are likely to occur in the next few months. Pak Jae Ro, a pro-North Korean resident of Japan and a vice chairman of an unnamed North Korean-sponsored organization in Japan, said that South Korean authorities are responsible for having failed to reach an agreement with North Korea on cohosting the Olympics. Pak refused to speculate on the possibility that North Korea will take military action to undermine the Olympics.

Park, Han Shik "Nationalism in North Korea." Korea and World Affairs (Seoul), Vol. 11, No. 3, Fall 1987, pp. 500-10.  
DS916.6.K67

The article examines Juche, the political philosophy of North Korean President Kim Il-song, which has been the primary justification for the legitimacy of his regime. The author suggests that the legitimacy of the next regime will depend more on economic development than the perpetuation of the Juche philosophy. Park predicts that North Korean heir apparent Kim Chong-il will have to promote more contacts between North Korea and other countries, including South Korea, in order to stay in power.

"Reserve Forces Training Intensified." Naewoe Tongsin (Seoul), 19 June 1987, pp. 1-7. In JPRS-KAR-88-001, 28 January 1988, pp. 88-91.

The article discusses the training programs of the Worker Peasant Red Guard (WPRG) and paramilitary units that would

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provide support to regular NKA units in wartime. Daily training is said to include marksmanship and formation drilling. It is believed that all able-bodied men and women between the ages of 17 and 55 would be mobilized in wartime. The article cites order of battle information published in the 1986-7 edition of Military Balance published by the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London.

"Two Korea's Military Preparations Compared." Gunji Kenkyu (Tokyo), December 1987, pp. 190-4. In JPRS-KAR-88-02, 1 February 1988, pp. 133-6.

As part of an examination of the military situation in both Koreas, the article considers the accuracy of recent North Korean reports that claim the KPA has a total personnel strength of 420,000. Given the fact that Pyongyang has emphasized the role of the military in building communism since at least 1962, 420,000 is thought to be an unrealistically low figure, particularly when compared to US Department of Defense figures that place the NKA's personnel strength at about 840,000. The article also notes that North Korean Defense Minister O Chin-u appears to be back in control of the KPA following his hospitalization for an undisclosed illness in September 1987.